

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

National Phase of International Application No.)
 PCT/JP2005/000969)
Inventor:)
 Hideyuki KOBAYASHI)
Application No.: **Not Yet Assigned**)
Filed: **August 9, 2006**)
For: **IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS, PHOTOGRAPHING**)
 APPARATUS, IMAGE PROCESSING SYSTEM, IMAGE)
 PROCESSING METHOD AND PROGRAM)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), applicant brings to the Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and cited in the international search report. Copies of the listed documents are attached. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and indicate that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-referenced application.

The following are listed on the accompanying PTO/SB/08 and are in a non-English language:

1. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2002-033934 - The relevance of this document is discussed at page 3 of the specification of the present application. An English-language abstract of this document is also enclosed.

2. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2002-050097 - The relevance of this document is discussed at page 3 of the specification of the present application. An English-language abstract of this document is also enclosed.

In lieu of a statement of relevance or the translation of the following non-English documents, enclosed is an English-language international search report from the Japanese Patent Office in the PCT international application, from which this national phase U.S. application is derived, citing these documents and setting forth the relevance thereof.

1. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 02-288672 - An English-language abstract of this document is enclosed.

2. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2003-118168 - An English-language abstract of this document is enclosed.

3. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 06-233129 - An English-language abstract of this document is enclosed.

4. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2003-283846 - An English-language abstract of this document is enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the

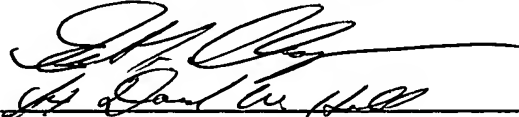
documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: August 9, 2006

By: 

David W. Hill
Reg. No. 28,220

Enclosures
DWH/FPD/tlm

ERNEST F. CHAPMAN
Reg. No. 25,961

IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				<i>Application Number</i>	Not Yet Assigned
(Use as many sheets as necessary)				<i>Filing Date</i>	August 9, 2006
				<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Hideyuki KOBAYASHI
				<i>Art Unit</i>	Not Yet Assigned
				<i>Examiner Name</i>	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	02860.1089

U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-			
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Note: Copies of the U.S. Patent Documents are not Required in IDS filed after October 21, 2004

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP 2002-033934	01-31-2002	FUJI PHOTO FILM CO LTD		Abstract
		JP 2000-050097	02-18-2000	CANON INC		Abstract
		JP 02-288672	11-28-1990	KONICA CORP		Abstract
		JP 2003-118168	04-23-2003	SEIKO EPSON CORP		Abstract
		JP 06-233129	08-19-1994	CANON INF SYST INC		Abstract
		JP 2003-283846	10-03-2003	RICOH CO LTD		Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.